II. Project Abstract

Briefly (500 words maximum) describe the proposed project clearly and concisely using the space provided.

The Franklin Community School Corporation (FCSC) is twenty miles south of Indianapolis Indiana and 90 miles north of Louisville, Kentucky, on I-65 and U.S. 31. The needs and baseline data for Project "Science and More" are organized by: 1) District Profile; 2) Student Profile; Technology Profile and 4) Curriculum Profile. Collectively, this profile positions the Franklin Community School Corporation as: 1) committed to a district-wide instructional model; 2) staffed to support innovation; 3) current in technology awareness and finally 4) dedicated to serving a growing student population with best practices. Project "Science and More" is a four (4) goal, nine (9) objective curriculum and technology integration initiative. It capitalizes on a emerging 2009-2010 district-wide curriculum commitment. The "Gradual Release of Responsibility" Instructional Model is designed to achieve improved student engagement, responsibility, and achievement through collaborative instructional design and technology integration. The Methods and Activities of Project Science and More are organized within the project goals and objectives. Each Method and Activities describes the curricula and teaching strategies that will be used to effectively implement the project. The ongoing and sustained professional development for teachers, principals, technology integration specialists and curriculum teaching coaches will be organized consistent with the goals and objectives of the project. The current capacity of the district to integrate technology is supported by: 1) the constellation of technology and instructional personnel dedicated to the GRR methodology and 2) the emerging classroom technologies that support studentcentered, problem-based learning model. This project will be evaluated in five phases: 1) Professional Development; 2) Technology Integration; 3) Curriculum Design; 4) Classroom Performance and 5) Student Achievement. The project does not have any formal educational organization partners. Unique to the project is the constellation of current personnel and technology capacity dedicated to systemic ongoing evaluation at all stages of the project. This constellation of personnel contributes to the project's capacity for continuous improvement. External evaluators will be invited to assess the midyear and end of year progress of the project using project goals and objectives as the criteria for observations and interviews. The total budget for this project is \$115,010.